

# PRO

Let men seriously and attentively listen to that voice within them, and they will certainly need no other medium to convince them, either of the error or danger of thus procrastinating their repentance. *Decay of Piety.*

**TO PROCRASTINATE.** *v. n.* To be dilatory.  
I procrastinate more than I did twenty years ago, and have several things to finish, which I put off to twenty years hence. *Swift to Pope.*

**PROCRASTINATION.** *n. f.* [*procrastinatio*, Lat. from *procrastinatus*.] Delay; dilatoriness.  
How desperate the hazard of such procrastination is, hath been convincingly demonstrated by better pens. *D. of Piety.*

**PROCRASTINATOR.** *n. f.* [*from procrastinatus*.] A dilatory person.

**PROCREANT.** *adj.* [*procreans*, Lat.] Productive; pregnant.  
The temple haunting martlet, does approve  
By his lov'd mansion, that heaven's breath  
Smells wooingly here: no jutting frieze,  
But this bird  
Hath made his pendant bed, and procreant cradle. *Shaksp.*

**TO PROCREATE.** *v. a.* [*procreo*, Lat. *procreo*, Fr.] To generate; to produce.  
Flies crushed and corrupted, when inclosed in such vessels,  
did never procreate a new fly. *Bentley.*  
Since the earth retains her fruitful power,  
To procreate plants the forest to refore;  
Say, why to nobler animals alone  
Should she be feeble, and unfruitful grown. *Blackmore.*

**PROCREATION.** *n. f.* [*procreation*, Fr. *procreatio*, Lat. from *procreare*.] Generation; production.  
The enclosed warmth, which the earth hath in itself,  
stirred up by the heat of the sun, assisteth nature in the speedier  
procreation of those varieties, which the earth bringeth forth. *Raleigh's Hist. of the World.*  
Neither her outside form'd so fair, nor ought  
In procreation common to all kinds. *Milton's Par. Lost.*  
Uncleannefs is an unlawful gratification of the appetite of  
procreation. *South's Sermons.*

**PROCREATIVE.** *adj.* [*from procreate*.] Generative; productive.  
The ordinary period of the human procreative faculty  
in males is sixty-five, in females forty-five. *Hale.*

**PROCREATIVENESS.** *n. f.* [*from procreative*.] Power of generation.  
These seem to have the accurs'd privilege of propagating  
and not expiring, and have reconciled the procreativeness of  
corporeal, with the duration of incorporeal substances. *Decay of Piety.*

**PROCREATOR.** *n. f.* [*from procreate*.] Generator; begetter.

**PROCTOR.** *n. f.* [*contracted from procurator*, Lat.]  
1. A manager of another man's affairs.  
The most clamorous for this pretended reformation, are  
either atheists, or else proctors suborned by atheists. *Hesker.*  
2. An attorney in the spiritual court.  
I find him charging the inconveniences in the payment  
of tythes upon the clergy and proctors. *Swift.*  
3. The magistrate of the university.

**TO PROCTOR.** *v. a.* [*from the noun*.] To manage. A cant word.  
I cannot proctor mine own cause so well  
To make it clear. *Shaksp. Ant. and Cleop.*

**PROCTORSHIP.** *n. f.* [*from proctor*.] Office or dignity of a proctor.  
From a scholar he became a fellow, and the president of  
the college, after he had received all the graces and degrees,  
the proctorship and the doctorship. *Clarendon.*

**PROCURMBENT.** *adj.* [*procumbens*, Latin.] Lying down; prone.

**PROCURABLE.** *adj.* [*from procure*.] To be procured; obtainable; acquirable.  
Though it be a far more common and procurable liquor  
than the infusion of lignum nephriticum, it may yet be easily  
substituted in its room. *Boyle on Colours.*

**PROCURACY.** *n. f.* [*from procure*.] The management of any thing.

**PROCURATION.** *n. f.* [*from procure*.] The act of procuring.  
Those, who formerly were doubtful in this matter, upon  
strict and repeated inspection of these bodies, and procuration  
of plain shells from this island, are now convinced, that these  
are the remains of sea-animals. *Woodward's Nat. Hist.*

**PROCURATOR.** *n. f.* [*procurator*, Fr. from *procurare*, Lat.]  
Manager; one who transacts affairs for another.  
I had in charge at my depart from France,  
As procurator for your excellence, *Shaksp.*  
To marry princes Marg'ret for your grace.  
They confirm and seal  
Their undertaking with their dearest blood,  
As procurators for the commonweal. *Daniel.*  
When the procurators of King Antigonus imposed a rate  
upon the sick people, that came to Edepsum to drink the  
waters which were lately sprung, and were very healthful,  
they instantly dried up. *Taylor's Rule of Living Holy.*

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**PROCURATORIAL.** *adj.* [*from procurator*.] Made by a proctor.  
All procuratorial exceptions ought to be made before con-  
testation of suit, and not afterwards, as being dilatory ex-  
ceptions, if a proctor was then made and constituted. *Ayliffe.*

**PROCURATORY.** *adj.* [*from procurator*.] Tending to procura-  
tion.

**TO PROCURE.** *v. a.* [*procure*, Lat. *procurer*, Fr.]  
1. To manage; to transact for another.  
2. To obtain; to acquire.  
They shall fear and tremble, for all the prosperity that I  
procure unto it. *For. xxxiii. 9.*  
Happy though but ill,  
If we procure not to ourselves more woe. *Milton.*  
We no other pains endure,  
Than those that we ourselves procure. *Dryden.*  
Then by thy toil procur'd, thou food shalt eat. *Dryden.*

3. To persuade; to prevail on.  
Is it my lady mother?  
What unaccustom'd cause procures her hither? *Shaksp.*  
Whom nothing can procure,  
When the wide world runs bias, from his will  
To writhe his limbs, and share, not mend the ill. *Herbert.*

4. To contrive; to forward.  
Proceed, Salinus, to procure my fall,  
And by the doom of death end woes and all. *Shaksp.*

**TO PROCURE.** *v. n.* To bawd; to pimp.  
Our author calls colouring, lea fororis, in plain English,  
the bawd of her sister, the design or drawing: the cloaths,  
she dresses her up, she paints her, she makes her appear more  
lovely than naturally she is, she procures for the design, and  
makes lovers for her. *Dryden's Dufresnoy.*  
With what impatience must the muse behold,  
The wife by her procuring husband fold. *Dryden.*

**PROCUREMENT.** *n. f.* The act of procuring.  
They mourn your ruin as their proper fate,  
Curling the empress; for they think it done  
By her procurement. *Dryden's Aurenga.*

**PROCURER.** *n. f.* [*from procure*.]  
1. One that gains; obtainer.  
Angling was after tedious study, a moderator of passions,  
and a procurer of contentedness. *Walton's Angler.*  
2. Pimp; pandar.  
Strumpets in their youth, turn procurers in their age. *South.*

**PROCURESS.** *n. f.* [*from procure*.] A bawd.  
I saw the most artful procure's in town, seducing a young  
girl. *Shaksp.*

**PRODIGAL.** *adj.* [*prodigus*, Lat. *prodigus*, Fr.] Profligate;  
wasteful; expensive; lavish; not frugal; not parcimonious.  
Least I should seem over prodigal in the praise of my coun-  
trymen, I will only present you with some few verses. *Cum.*  
Be now as prodigal of all dear grace,  
As nature was in making graces dear,  
When she did flave the general world beside,  
And prodigally gave them all to you. *Shaksp.*  
My chief care  
Is to come fairly off from the great debts,  
Wherein my time, something too prodigal,  
Hath left me gaged. *Shaksp. Merch. of Venice.*  
Diogenes did beg more of a prodigal man than the rest;  
whereupon one said, see your baseness, that when you find  
a liberal mind, you will take most of him; no, said Dioge-  
nes, but I mean to beg of the rest again. *Bacon.*  
As a hero, whom his baser foes  
In troops surround; now these affairs, now those,  
Though prodigal of life, disdains to die  
By common hands. *Danham.*  
Here patriots live, who for their country's good,  
In fighting fields were prodigal of blood. *Dryden.*  
The prodigal of soul rush'd on the stroke  
Of lifted weapons, and did wounds provoke. *Dryden.*  
O! beware,  
Great warrior, nor too prodigal of life,  
Expose the British safety. *Philips.*  
Some people are prodigal of their blood, and others to spar-  
ing, as if so much life and blood went together. *Baker.*

**PRODIGAL.** *n. f.* A waster; a spendthrift.  
A beggar suddenly grown rich, becomes a prodigal; for to  
obscure his former obscurity, he puts on riot and excess. *Benj. Johnson's Discovery.*

Thou  
Ow'st all thy losses to the fates; but I,  
Like wasteful prodigals, have cast away  
My happiness. *Danham's Scrib.*  
Let the wasteful prodigal be slain. *Dryden.*

**PRODIGALITY.** *n. f.* [*prodigality*, Fr. from *prodigal*.] Ex-  
travagance; profusion; waste; excessive liberality.  
A sweeter and lovelier gentleman,  
Fram'd in the prodigality of nature, *Shaksp.*  
The spacious world cannot again afford.  
He that decries covertness, should not be held an adver-  
sary to him that opposeth prodigality. *Glenn.*

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It is not always so obvious to distinguish between an act of  
liberality and act of prodigality. *South's Sermons.*  
The most severe censor cannot but be pleas'd with the pro-  
digality of his wit, though at the same time he could have  
wish'd, that the matter of it had been a better manager. *Dry.*

**PRODIGALLY.** *adv.* [*from prodigal*.] Profusely; wastefully;  
extravagantly.  
We are not yet so wretched in our fortunes,  
Nor in our wills so lost, as to abandon  
A friendship prodigally, of that price  
As is the senate and the people of Rome. *B. Johnson.*  
I cannot well be thought so prodigally thrifty of my subjects  
blood, as to venture my own life. *King Charles.*  
The next in place and punishment are they,  
Who prodigally throw their souls away;  
Fools, who repining at their wretched fate,  
And loathing anxious life, suborn'd their fate. *Dryden.*  
Nature not bounteous now, but lavish grows,  
Our paths with flow'rs the prodigally strows. *Dryden.*

**PRODIGIOUS.** *adj.* [*prodigiatus*, Lat. *prodigiosus*, Fr.] Ama-  
zing; astonishing; such as may seem a prodigy; portentous;  
enormous; monstrous; amazingly great.  
If e'er he have a child, abortive be it,  
Prodigious and untimely brought to light. *Shaksp.*  
An emission of immoderate virtues we are a little doubtful  
to propound, it being so prodigious; but that it is constantly  
avouched by many. *Bacon's Nat. Hist.*  
It is prodigious to have thunder in a clear sky. *Brown.*  
Then entering at the gate,  
Conceal'd in clouds, prodigious to relate,  
He mix'd, unmark'd, among the busy throng. *Dryden.*  
The Rhone enters the lake, and brings along with it a  
prodigious quantity of water. *Addison's Remarks on Italy.*  
It is a scandal to christianity, that in towns, where there  
is a prodigious increase in the number of houses and inhabi-  
tants, so little care should be taken for churches. *Swift.*

**PRODIGIOUSLY.** *adv.* [*from prodigious*.]  
1. Amazingly; astonishingly; portentously; enormously.  
I do not mean absolutely according to philoosophick exact-  
ness infinite, but only infinite or innumerable as to us, or their  
number prodigiously great. *Ray on the Creation.*  
2. It is sometimes used as a familiar hyperbole.  
I am prodigiously pleas'd with this joint volume. *Pope.*

**PRODIGIOUSNESS.** *n. f.* [*from prodigious*.] Enormousness;  
portentousness; amazing qualities.

**PRODIGY.** *n. f.* [*prodigium*, Fr. *prodigium*, Lat.]  
1. Any thing out of the ordinary process of nature, from which  
omens are drawn; portent.  
Be no more an exhal'd meteor,  
A prodigy of fear, and a portent  
Of broached mischief, to the unborn times. *Shaksp.*  
The party opposite to our settlement, seem to be driven  
out of all human methods, and are reduced to the poor com-  
fort of prodigies and old women's fables. *Addison.*

2. Monster.  
Most of mankind, through their own sluggishness, become  
nature's prodigies, not her children. *Benj. Johnson.*

3. Any thing astonishing for good or bad.  
They would seem prodigies of learning. *Spektator.*

**PRODIGIOUS.** *n. f.* [*prodigium*, Lat.] Treason; treachery. *Am.*

**PRODITOR.** *n. f.* [*Latin*.] A traitor. Not in use.  
Pier'd priest, dost thou command me be shut out?  
— I do, thou most usurping proditor. *Shaksp.*

**PRODITORIOUS.** *adj.* [*from proditor*, Lat.]  
1. Traycerous; treacherous; perfidious.  
Now proditorious wretch! what hast thou done,  
To make this barb'rous base assassinate? *Daniel.*  
2. To make dice-veins.  
Solid and conclusive characters are emergent from the mind,  
and start out of children when themselves least think of it;  
for nature is proditorious. *Wotton on Education.*

**TO PRODUCE.** *v. a.* [*produco*, Lat. *produco*, Fr.]  
1. To offer to the view or notice.  
Produce your cause, faith the Lord; bring forth your strong  
reasons. *Isa. xli. 21.*  
2. To exhibit to the publick.  
Your parents did not produce you much into the world,  
whereby you avoided many wrong steps. *Swift.*  
3. To bring as an evidence.  
It seems not meet, nor wholesome to my place,  
To be produc'd against the Moor. *Shaksp. Othello.*  
4. To bear; to bring forth, as a vegetable.  
This soil produces all sorts of palm-trees. *Sandys.*  
5. To cause; to effect; to generate; to beget.  
Somewhat is produced of nothing; for lies are sufficient to  
breed opinion, and opinion brings on substance. *Bacon.*  
They by imprudence mix'd  
Produce prodigious births of body or mind. *Milton.*  
Now all this good of evil shall produce. *Milton.*  
Clouds may rain, and rain produce  
Fruit in her soften'd soil. *Milton.*

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Observing in ourselves, that we can at pleasure move several  
parts of our bodies; the effects also, that natural bodies  
are able to produce in one another, occurring every moment to  
our senses, we both these ways get the idea of power. *Locke.*  
Hinder light but from striking on porphyre, and its colours  
vanish, it no longer produces any such ideas; upon the return  
of light, it produces these appearances again. *Locke.*  
This wonder of the sculptor's hand  
Produce'd, his art was at a stand. *Addison.*

**PRODUCE.** *n. f.* [*from the verb*.] This noun, though accented  
on the last syllable by *Dryden*, is generally accented on the  
former.]  
1. Product; that which any thing yields or brings.  
You hoard not health for your own private use,  
But on the publick spend the rich produce. *Dryden.*  
2. Amount; profit; gain; emergent sum or quantity.  
In Staffordshire, after their lands are marled, they sow it  
with barley, allowing three bushels to an acre. Its common  
produce is thirty bushels. *Mortimer's Husbandry.*  
This tax has already been so often tried, that we know the  
exact produce of it. *Addison's Freeholder, N<sup>o</sup> 20.*

**PRODUCEMENT.** *n. f.* [*from produce*.] One that exhibits; one  
that offers.  
If an instrument be produced with a protestation in favour  
of the producent, and the adverse party does not contradict,  
it shall be construed to the advantage of the producent. *Ayliffe.*

**PRODUCER.** *n. f.* [*from produce*.] One that generates or pro-  
duces.  
By examining how I, that could contribute nothing to mine  
own being, should be here, I came to ask the same question  
for my father, and so am led in a direct line to a first producer  
that must be more than man. *Locke.*  
Whenever want of money, or want of desire in the con-  
sumer, make the price low, that immediately reaches the first  
producer. *Locke.*

**PRODUCIBLE.** *adj.* [*from produce*.]  
1. Such as may be exhibited.  
That is accounted probable, which has better arguments  
produced for it, than can be brought against it. *South.*  
Many warm expressions of the fathers are producible in this  
case. *Decay of Piety.*  
2. Such as may be generated or made.  
The salts producible, are the alcalis or fixt salts, which seem  
to have an antipathy with acid ones. *Boyle.*

**PRODUCIBLENESS.** *n. f.* [*from producible*.] The state of  
being producible.  
To confirm our doctrine of the producibility of salts, Hel-  
mont assures us, that by Paracelsus's sal circulatum solid bo-  
dies, particularly stones, may be transmutated into actual salt  
equiponderant. *Boyle.*

**PRODUCT.** *n. f.* [*productus*, Lat. *productus*, Fr.]  
1. Something produced, as fruits, grain, metals.  
The landholder, having nothing but what the product of  
his land will yield, must take the market-rate. *Locke.*  
Our British products are of such kinds and quantities, as  
can turn the balance of trade to our advantage. *Addison.*  
Range in the same quarter, the products of the same season. *Spektator.*

See thy bright altars  
Heap'd with the products of Sabean springs. *Pope.*

2. Work; composition.  
Most of those books, which have obtained great reputation  
in the world, are the products of great and wise men. *Watts.*  
3. Thing consequential; effect.  
These are the products?  
Of those ill-mated marriages. *Milton's Par. Lost.*

**PRODUCTILE.** *adj.* [*from produco*, Lat.] Which may be pro-  
duced.

**PRODUCTION.** *n. f.* [*production*, Fr. from *produci*.]  
1. The act of producing.  
A painter should foresee the harmony of the lights and  
shadows, taking from each of them that which will most con-  
duce to the production of a beautiful effect. *Dryden.*  
2. The thing produced; fruit; product.  
The best of queens and best of herbs we owe  
To that bold nation, which the way did show  
To the fair region, where the sun does rise,  
Whole rich productions we so justly prize. *Waller.*  
What would become of the scrupulous consumptive pro-  
duction, furnished by our men of wit and learning. *Swift.*

3. Composition.  
We have had our names prefixed at length, to whole vo-  
lumes of mean productions. *Swift.*

**PRODUCTIVE.** *adj.* [*from produce*.] Having the power to pro-  
duce; fertile; generative; efficient.  
In these  
Not in themselves, all their known virtue appears  
Productive as in herb and plant. *Milton.*  
This is turning nobility into a principle of virtue, and  
making it productive of merit, as it is understood to have  
been originally a reward of it. *Spektator, N<sup>o</sup> 537.*